



**American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.**  
A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)

# Enroll now in the ABPN Article Based Continuing Certification (ABCC) Pathway

December 14, 2021

The ABPN's new [Article Based Continuing Certification \(ABCC\) Pathway](#) is an ongoing professional journal article-based assessment activity now available as an optional alternative to the traditional 10-year recertification/continuing certification examination for Part III of the ABPN Continuing Certification (CC) Program.



- Diplomates with active certificates in the CC program can now view individualized article assessment requirements and enroll in the ABCC pathway through the new, user-friendly [ABPN Physician Portal](#) through December 31.
- **All diplomates with active CC certificates who are enrolled in the ABCC Pathway will begin article assessments in 2022, regardless of when they last passed a certification or recertification examination.**
- All diplomates with active 10-Year certificates should refer to information below on ABCC enrollment, application details, and timeline.
- Diplomates with **lapsed or non-time limited (Lifetime)** certificates will be eligible to participate in the ABCC Pathway beginning January 15, 2022. See information below.

## One Assessment Pathway for All Active Certifications

Diplomates must choose one of the following Part III assessment pathways for all their certifications:

- The ABCC Pathway, OR
  - The traditional 10-year CC Exam Pathway
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- Diplomates enrolled in the ABCC Pathway will begin reading articles and taking article assessments through the Physician Portal, starting in January 2022.

- Diplomates enrolled in the traditional CC Examination Pathway must apply and pass a recertification exam for each certification every 10 years from the date of the last passed examination for each certification to remain active.
- If no assessment pathway is chosen by January 1, 2022, the ABCC Pathway will become the automatic default assessment option for diplomates with eligible active CC certificate(s) in 3-year blocks.
- In addition to the Part III assessment pathway, diplomates with active CC certificates must continue to complete the Self-Assessment(SA), CME, and PIP requirements every 3-year CC block to remain certified.

The ABCC Pathway option will be offered for [all ABPN specialties and subspecialties](#), except for Neurocritical Care, which will be added in 2025. At the same time, the traditional Continuing Certification (CC/MOC) computerized examination will continue to be offered.

See [Physician Portal](#) assessment pathway enrollment information for more details and timeline.

For more information, visit the new [ABCC Pathway](#) page on the ABPN website.

## CHANGES IN 2022

### CC/MOC Fees for Multiple Certifications

With the upcoming sunset of the 10-Year MOC program, all ABPN diplomates will be in 3-year cycles/blocks for Self-Assessment, CME, and PIP. Since the 10-Year MOC program is ending, there will no longer be the traditional CC/MOC application and exam fees for multiple certifications.



- Instead, the annual CC fee amount will be calculated based on the number of active certificates: \$175 for one certification; \$300 for two certifications; \$395 for three or more certifications.
- The annual fee will cover either Part III assessment pathway (ABCC or Exams) for all certificates. There will no longer be an application and exam fee collected at the time of the second or third certification assessment deadlines.
- Annual fees include development and administration of both CC Part III assessment pathways, reporting of Board certification status, access to personalized Physician Portal account, ongoing credentialing, and verification of certification.

Active CC diplomates will no longer be required to submit a traditional recertification application and lump sum payment provided their certification(s) remain active. If a certification lapses, then a diplomate will need to pay the full recertification cost at time of submitting the CC exam or article pathway application. More details will be provided next year if a diplomate chooses not to have all certifications remain active in the CC Program.

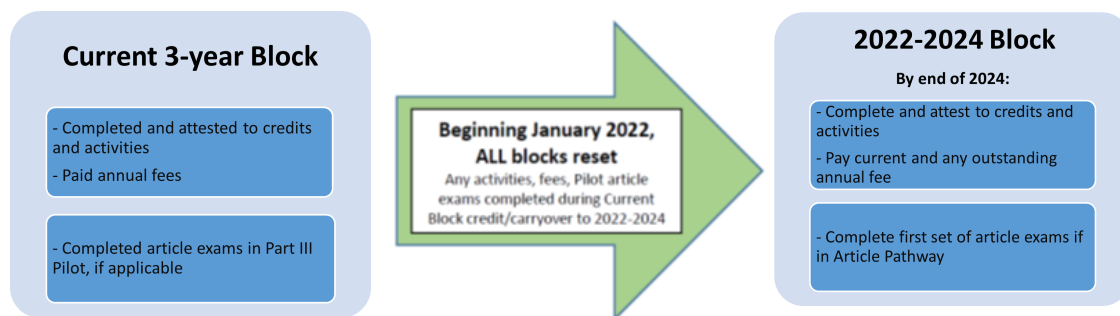
For diplomates with multiple certifications, the fees are distributed over an annual basis instead of an additional lump sum examination fee collected per certification at the time of each exam administration.

**3-year CC Block Reset in New Physician Portal**  
Beginning **January 1, 2022**, the new [Physician Portal](#) will reset all active 3-year CC blocks with the years 2022-2024 to align article assessment and CC requirement completion deadlines.



- Any CC activities completed and attested to during the current CC block will be credited towards the 2022-2024 block, including Self-Assessment, CME, PIP, and Pilot article exams, if applicable.
- If diplomates are enrolled in the ABCC Pathway, they will be required to successfully complete article assessments in [every three-year CC/MOC block](#).

See **Physician Portal** assessment pathway enrollment information for more details and timeline.



Diplomates currently not meeting requirements will need to catch up with the outstanding block of requirements, as well as complete the 2022-2024 block of requirements, by the end of 2024 to remain Certified.

## 10-Year Certifications: Article Pathway 2022 Deadlines

Diplomates in the 10-Year MOC Program whose certification was scheduled to expire in 2020 or 2021 will have those certificates extended until December 31, 2022. Those diplomates, diplomates with non-time limited (Lifetime) certificates, and lapsed certificate holders will need to wait until early 2022 to apply for the article assessment pathway.

- In order to be excused from the CC/recertification examinations, diplomates who were awarded 2010 and/or 2011 primary and/or subspecialty certificates will have until December 15, 2022, to successfully complete 30 article exams per certification.
- Diplomates must submit an article application and fee in 2022. If a diplomate was awarded a 2010 or 2011 certificate(s), they will pay for recertification in 2022 when they submit the application.

- Diplomates will not be able to begin the ABCC pathway until their application and fees have been submitted. If a diplomate has an expired/lapsed certificate or a Lifetime certification, they must pay in full for recertification at the time they submit the application.

#### Specialty and Subspecialty Certifications

| Certificate Award Year | Article Exam Start Date | Article Pathway Application Available | Article Pathway Application and Payment Deadline* | Article Exam Question Deadline* | Results Finalized |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2010**                 | 1/15/2022               | 1/15/2022                             | 9/1/2022  | 12/15/2022                      | after 12/15/2022  |
| 2011**                 | 1/15/2022               | 1/15/2022                             | 9/1/2022  | 12/15/2022                      | after 12/15/2022  |

\*\*Certificate expirations automatically extended until 12/31/2022 due to the pandemic. The 10-year MOC program will sunset at the end of 2022.

Certificates will be mailed approximately 3 months after scores are finalized.

Check out the following [ABPN-administered specialties and subspecialties](#) that will be included in the ABCC Pathway starting in 2022.

#### ABPN past announcements on ABCC

Catch up on past ABPN announcements on the ABCC:

- [Pilot project approved as permanent alternative to 10-year MOC examination](#)
- [New ABCC pathway from the ABPN and other exciting changes](#)
- [ABPN Article-Based Continuing Certification \(ABCC\) Pathway Option Available for All ABPN Specialties and Subspecialties in 2022](#)
- [New ABCC Pathway Enrollment opens to Diplomates in November](#)

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